

# BRIXWORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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## Report of the Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1911.

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MR. CHAIRMAN, MRS. CALVERLEY, AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in submitting to you my FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT dealing with the Vital Statistics and the Sanitary Condition of Brixworth Rural District, comprised of 36 Parishes, having an area of 63,608 acres, an estimated population of 11,833, and about 2,986 houses, averaging 4 inmates per house.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.—In 1911 there were 253 births registered, 141 for East and 112 for West Brixworth.

In 1910, 225 births were registered, as against 253 for 1911, showing an increase of 28, or a birth-rate of 21·3 per 1,000, as against 19 per 1,000 for 1910.

DEATHS.—Total deaths registered in the District in 1911 were 132—*i.e.* 80 for East and 52 for West Brixworth—as against 134 for 1910, showing a decrease of 2 and a death-rate of 11·1 per 1,000.

INFANT MORTALITY. — The number of deaths under 1 year for 1911 were 14, as against 11 for 1910.

The death-rate being 55·3 per 1,000, as against 49·3 per 1,000 births for 1910.

PHTHISIS.—The deaths registered as caused by this disease were 10, as against 3 for 1910, or a death-rate of ·8 per 1,000, as against ·25 per 1,000 for 1910.

There were also 3 deaths from other Tubercular diseases, which might be put down with Phthisis, being due to the same cause.

One death occurred in Creaton Sanatorium, leaving 9 cases for the District proper.

RESPIRATORY DISEASES.—The deaths registered during 1911 were 13, as against 25 for 1910, or a death-rate of 1·09 per 1,000, as against 2·1 per 1,000 for 1910.

CANCER.—11 deaths were registered for 1911, as against 13 for 1910, or a death-rate of ·9 per 1,000, as against 1·09 per 1,000 for 1910.

TABLE A.

EAST BRIXWORTH.

CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1911.

CAUSES OF DEATH.			All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 year and under 5 years.	5 years and under 15 years.	15 years and under 25 years.	25 years and under 65 years.	65 years and upwards.	Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	*1
Whooping Cough	...	...	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria & Membranous Croup	...	...	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	*2
Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever {	Typhus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Enteric	...	7	...	...	1	3	3	...	*7
	Other, Continued	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epidemic Influenza	...	...	1	...	...	...	..	1	...	†1
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis	...	...	4	2	...	1	...	...	1	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Septic Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis	...	...	14	...	1	3	2	8	...	*6
Other Tubercular Diseases	..	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Cancer—Malignant	...	...	8	...	...	...	1	3	4	*1
Bronchitis	...	...	8	...	1	...	...	2	5	...
Pneumonia	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Pleurisy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism—Cirrhosis of Liver...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Venereal Diseases	...	...	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Births	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diseases & Accidents of Parturition	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
Heart Diseases	...	...	12	...	...	...	2	3	7	†2
Accidents	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Suicides	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
All other Causes	...	...	32	6	...	...	2	6	18	†2
Total Deaths	...	...	97	11	4	7	12	27	36	22

\* Non-Resident in Borough Hospital (Isolation).

† Residents in Workhouse.

WEST BRIXWORTH.

CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1911.

CAUSES OF DEATH.			All Ages.	Under 1 year	1 year and under 5 years.	5 years and under 15 years.	15 years and under 25 years.	25 years and under 65 years.	65 years and upwards.
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria & Membranous Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever {	Typhus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Enteric	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Other, Continued	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epidemic Influenza	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis	...	...	3	1	1	...	1	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Septic Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...
Other Tubercular Diseases	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	1	...
Cancer—Malignant	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	1	3
Bronchitis	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	1	2
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pleurisy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism—Cirrhosis of Liver...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Venereal Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diseases & Accidents of Parturition	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Heart Diseases	...	...	9	...	...	...	1	1	7
Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suicides	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
All other Causes	...	...	25	...	...	1	...	5	19
Total Deaths	...	...	52	3	1	2	3	12	31

TABLE B.

DEATHS CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THE DISTRICTS IN WHICH THEY  
OCCURRED AT ALL AGES.

Brixworth	...	...	17	Forward	...	...	93
Brixworth Workhouse...	...	...	7	Sanatorium, Hollowell...	...	...	1
Pitsford	...	...	3	Teeton	...	...	1
Boughton	...	...	4	Cottesbrooke	...	...	2
Brampton, Church	...	...	1	Creaton	...	...	4
Harlestone	...	...	7	Cold Ashby	...	...	1
Great Brington	...	...	3	Hanging Houghton	...	...	4
Little Brington	...	...	3	Scaldwell	...	...	4
Spratton	...	...	6	Old	...	...	6
East Haddon	...	...	4	Walgrave	...	...	12
Ravensthorpe	...	...	5	Holcot	...	...	4
Guilsborough	...	...	5	Overstone	...	...	4
Thornby	...	...	2	Moulton	...	...	10
Naseby	...	...	4	Maidwell	...	...	2
Borough Hospital	...	...	17	Coton	...	...	1
Hollowell	...	...	3	Hannington	...	...	2
Forward	...	...	93	Total	...	...	149

TABLE C.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING 1911.

	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 to 5 years.	5 to 15 years.	15 to 25 years.	25 to 65 years.	65 years and upwards.
Diphtheria	...	...	...	11	1	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	10	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	2	5	3	1	...
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Total	...	...	2	16	4	12	1

TABLE D.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED IN EACH SEPARATE VILLAGE.

Brixworth	...	...	Scarlet Fever	...	...	2
			Erysipelas	...	...	1
Guilsborough	...	...	Scarlet Fever	...	...	1
Harlestone	...	...	Erysipelas	...	...	1
Overstone	...	...	Diphtheria	...	...	2
Pitsford	...	...	Scarlet Fever	...	...	2
Boughton	...	...	Diphtheria	...	...	1
Old	...	...	Scarlet Fever	...	...	4
			Erysipelas	...	...	1
Maidwell	...	...	Scarlet Fever	...	...	1
Naseby	...	...	Erysipelas	...	...	2
Great Brington	...	...	Diphtheria	...	...	5
			Erysipelas	...	...	1
Little Brington	...	...	Diphtheria	...	...	3
			Erysipelas	...	...	1
Lampport	...	...	Scarlet Fever	...	...	1
			Erysipelas	...	...	1
Spratton	...	...	Erysipelas	...	...	1
Moulton	...	...	Typhoid Fever	...	...	1
Holdenby	...	...	Erysipelas	...	...	1
Creaton	...	...	Erysipelas	...	...	1
Holcot	...	...	Diphtheria	...	...	1
Total	...	...	...	...	...	35



TABLE E.

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1911.

*Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under One Year of Age.*

CAUSE OF DEATH.			Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	1-5 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total Deaths under One Year.
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	4
Tuberculosis Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	3
Convulsions	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Gastritis	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	1	...	...	1
Other causes	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
			...	2	1	1	2	3	2	3	14

Births in the year

{

legitimate ... 241

illegitimate ... 12

Deaths in the year of

{

legitimate infants ... 13

illegitimate infants... 1

## SANITARY REPORT.

In Table A the deaths for "all other causes" number 57. Most of these are due to causes dependent on old age.

There were 21 deaths due to heart disease (as against 23 in 1910), the great cause of which is Rheumatism, which is largely due to damp houses and also to want of care on the part of the individuals in not changing damp clothing.

PHTHISIS.—Deaths due to this disease numbered 10, a considerable increase from 1910, but slightly lower than 1909. The two predisposing causes of Phthisis are overcrowding and want of fresh air.

CANCER.—The death-rate due to this disease has been gradually decreasing the last few years, there being two less deaths than in 1910.

INFANT MORTALITY.—The infant mortality, considering the exceptional summer and high death-rate in the large Towns, has been extremely low, there being 14 deaths, as against 11 for 1910. There has been no epidemic of gastro-enteritis, which has been the chief cause of the high death-rate in Towns.

## NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

35 deaths were notified during the year, as against 21 for 1910, and 67 for 1909. With the exception of 1910, this is the lowest rate for the last 10 years.

### SCARLET FEVER.

11 cases were notified, the same number as in 1910, as against 40 in 1909.

Of the 11 cases, Old was responsible for 4, Brixworth and Pitsford for 2 each, and Guilsborough, Maidwell, and Lamport for 1 each.

The Scarlet Fever at Pitsford was brought from Northampton, a girl who was in service in the Town being sent home with the disease.

It was impossible to trace the origin of the disease in the other villages.

The disease has been of a mild type; there have been no deaths in the district, and only 1 in the Borough Hospital.

### DIPHTHERIA AND MEMBRANOUS CROUP.

12 cases were notified, as against 1 for 1910 and 1909 respectively. This is the greatest number of cases for many years.

Of the 12 cases, Great and Little Brington were responsible for 8, Overstone for 2, and Boughton and Holcot for 1 each.

The Diphtheria at Overstone and Holcot was undoubtedly contracted at Sywell, where the disease has been breaking out on and off for some time. Both the girls at Overstone had been to a house at Sywell a few days before they were taken ill, where the inmates had recently had the disease.

In the case at Holcot, the boy who got the disease had been going to Sywell to School.

It was not possible to trace the origin of the Diphtheria at Great and Little Brington. The disease was of a very mild type.

There have been no deaths in district, but there were 2 in the Borough Hospital.

### TYPHOID FEVER.

1 case was notified, as against 1 for 1910. The case which occurred at Moulton Grange Lodge in June was of a mild type, and extremely well isolated. No cause could be found for the origin of the disease, the drains were thoroughly examined and the water analysed, and both found to be all right.

### MEASLES.

There was an extensive epidemic of Measles in Maidwell and a few cases at Draughton in May. There were also a few cases at Lamport and Old.

The Schools were closed at Maidwell for 1 month, and at Lamport and Old for 14 days.

### WHOOPING COUGH.

There was an outbreak of Whooping Cough at Lamport and Hanging Houghton in September, for which the Schools were closed for 14 days. Two Babies died of Broncho Pneumonia complicating the disease.

### VACCINATION.

Vaccination is steadily decreasing every year, most of the parents getting exemptions for their children, who will be in great danger should Small-pox break out.

### PTOMAIN POISONING.

A child aged 3 years died of ptomain poisoning at Hollowell Vicarage. The drainage of the Vicarage was found to be in a very bad state, and has since been relaid throughout, also the cottages adjoining.

### WATER SUPPLY.

There is a good supply of water, which is laid into stand pipes and in the streets and into the houses in the following villages: Chapel and Church Brampton, Great and Little Brington, Harlestone, East Haddon, and part of Creaton. Hollowell is well supplied through iron pipes, as also Hazelbeach and part of Holdenby. The other part of the district is supplied by wells or springs. Two complaints received at Moulton Grange cottages and Hollowell Vicarage, the water was analysed and found good.

### HOUSE ACCOMMODATION.

8 new houses have been erected.

7 houses re-constructed.

4 cases of overcrowding have been reported and abated.

28 cottages were reported to the Council. 28 repaired not under the Housing and Town Planning Act.

### BAKEHOUSES.

3 reported to the Council for uncleanness and abated.

### DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

3 Dairies reported to the Council for uncleanness. Sale of milk stopped.

7 Cowsheds reported new floors required (work done).

### SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

3 reported for uncleanness and abated.

### DRAINS, PIGSTIES, ASHPITS, AND MANURE PITS.

173 have been reported, orders made thereon, and abated.

32 Villages have been inspected from house to house.

### FACTORIES, LAUNDRIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Have been visited and found all right.



## PLANS.

25 plans for houses and drains considered—25 passed.

## SCHOOLS.

School premises visited and report made to the Council every 4 weeks. New Schools have been built at Spratton.

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

23 parishes have sewers, which are in fair order.

There are 26 filtration areas and 2 septic tanks with filters. 2 with septic tanks only.

About 30 acres of land are laid out for filtration purposes in the various parishes. A new sewer has been laid at Hollowell.

## FLUSHING OF SEWERS.

This is done by the Council throughout the district every 14 days.

## SCAVENGING.

This is done once a quarter at the following villages: Chapel and Church Brampton, Boughton, Great and Little Brington, Nobottle, Brixworth, Creaton, Cold Ashby, East Haddon, Hazelbeach, Harlestone, Holcot, Moulton, Naseby, Old, Pitsford, Ravensthorpe, Spratton, and Walgrave.

## METHODS OF DEALING WITH INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

By notification, for such as are notifiable, and isolation as far as possible at their own homes. Disinfection is done by formalin gas and sulphur fumes. Orders are issued for the rooms to be afterwards cleaned down, white-washed, and re-papered.

## IMPORTANT RECOMMENDATION BY DR. COPEMAN.

When Dr. Copeman (Local Government Inspector) visited this district in November, 1907, he made the following very important recommendation, which he hoped would be carried out: that the Brixworth Rural District, either by themselves or in combination with neighbouring districts, should at once provide an isolation hospital for cases of infectious disease. The site for the hospital has been obtained and plans accepted.

From my Report you will see that the condition of the district as regards disease and death has been good, although not so good as 1910: it is better than it has been for a great many years previous to 1910. There have been rather more infectious diseases and also an increase of Phthisis, but the death-rate has been slightly lower, and there has been a slight decrease in Cancer as compared with 1910.

I have to thank the Sanitary Inspector for his hearty co-operation, and you, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, for your courtesy and support.

I am,

Yours obediently,

R. WINTERBOTHAM.

